

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 16, as follows:

The A/D converter 4 converts the analog audio signal selected by the signal switch circuit 3 into a digital signal. Under the control of the system control section 5, a digital signal processing section (DSP) 12 compresses (encodes) the digital signal provided from the A/D converter 4. The system control section 5 may include a recording section (not shown) which records compressed data as a file in a recording medium (semiconductor memory card) 6.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 26, as follows:

A plug-in power system is adopted in the external microphone input section 20. That is, power is supplied to both the right and left channels of the stereo microphone from a microphone power supply ~~[[12]]~~19 via power supply resistances r1 and r2. The audio signals from the microphone are input to microphone amplifiers 13, 14 of both the right and left channels, and amplified and then sent to a next stage. A plug detection system 18 detects whether or not the microphone plug is plugged into the external microphone input section 20, and provides the detection signal EXM.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 23, as follows:

Fig. 4 shows a configuration example of the DC voltage detection section 15. The DC voltage detection section 15 detects that a voltage of a right channel power

supply line is substantially a DC voltage of 0 V, thereby determining whether the connected external microphone is stereo or monaural. The right channel signal input terminal 16R is connected to an inverted terminal of a comparator 17, and also connected to one end of the resistance r1. The other end of the resistance r1 is connected to the microphone power supply [[12]]19, and supplied with a microphone power supply voltage V_{mic} . A noninverted terminal of the comparator 17 is supplied with a threshold voltage V_{ref} .

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 12, as follows:

The voltage V_{det} of the right signal terminal is first supplied to the signal switch circuit (SW) 3 (not shown). For example, when the power from the microphone power supply 19 is turned on, or every time the microphone plug is plugged into the external microphone input section 20, the system control section 5 switches the signal switch circuit (SW) 3 to a V_{det} side by the signal INS, so as to read the voltage V_{det} via the A/D converter 4 and compare it with a predetermined threshold value to detect whether V_{det} is equal to a DC voltage of 0 V, thereby determining whether the connected microphone plug is monaural. If a value of the voltage V_{det} is smaller than the predetermined threshold value, the system control section 5 judges that a monaural plug is connected to the external microphone input section 20, and changes a recording operation of the digital signal processing section 12 for monaural use as described above.